

**Notes from the Libraries 2025 Sessions – February 2017**
**Delegates were asked what they would like to further see for public libraries beyond the priorities OLS-N, SOLS, FOPL and OLA are working on:**

* If shared resources are shown effective for libraries, how else could libraries share…especially IT/digital infrastructure resources? (“Easy button” for best practices in IT). It could save money, even by reducing time required in people resources.
* More French initiatives and/or ensure current initiatives are fully bilingual.
* Aside from partnerships with schools, what other kinds of partnerships can the libraries pursue? (ie with local business, religious organizations, community centres, cultural organizations).
* Work with neglected populations to engage them better (ie teens, seniors). How to reach those who may never step foot in a library.
* Lines of communication – clearer – FOPL website is ridiculously out of date. Nice to know what’s going on – collaboration. Where do we find this info? It’s great to hear it here, but what about the rest of the year
* I think it is very important to work together and collaborate, as more can be accomplished. The one thing that would concern me would be that smaller libraries and rural libraries must be represented.
* We need regional workshops on how to access/apply the data – definitely on right track!
* Continue supporting Aboriginal communities!!!
* Yes, I think you’re still on the right track. Training for public, specifically in regards to e-books and e-resources.
* Very pleased to hear that access and broadband in rural communities is being addressed. Keep supporting rural areas.
* Overall on the right track. Consider also: precarious work and underemployment.
* AMO – great idea to showcase the tagline with municipalities. We could use more info on how libraries support, augment typical municipal priorities. What are good key messages? What are TPL strategies for card holder growth?
* The cohesive approach across agencies to potential and current stakeholders and partners serves to benefit each of our communities. Thank you for the continued efforts past, present and future.



* Yes, you are on the right track and I applaud you for your focuses! Couple Suggestions: Need tools and tips to reach the populations who don’t currently use our libraries. Our media work tends to hit those who already walk through our doors. We need to stretch and reach out further; and Need ways to encourage Librarians/CEO’s to collect and
input accurate data vs. stacked numbers. How can we know and feel comfortable to compare ourselves to accurate data. Thank you!
* Possibly in relation to LearnHQ, it would be great to have a profile of Ontario library blogs ie librarians who are regularly sharing their experiences and resources. Would be cool to have the featured in a similar way as programminglibrarian.com by ALA. A Facebook group similar to “ALA Think Tank” but for Ontario libraries. Maybe a province wide portal for patrons to submit stories, with a video or image we could share to promote submissions.
* It’s great you’re working together on these initiatives – which are really relevant. Important to have the many library systems evaluating and promoting library services in the same way.
* Love the new tagline and strongly feel FOPL work is on track. Thanks for reinforcing the benefits of LearningHQ. SOLS is such a huge support for medium size libraries.
* Are we on the right track? Yes – but let’s collaborate even more. Specifically as we design methodologies for evaluating impact across the province, and ideally across Canada. FOPL, OLA, SOLS and OLS-North must share their work in progress so that we are not unnecessarily duplicating effort, and to use our time efficiently and progress more quickly.
* I think that the provincial priorities your public libraries looks very promising. Very exciting things are happening!! Very great to see all these initiatives. That being said it’s imperative that libraries that are small and in the North/North West portions of our province do not get forgotten. We are a very long way from southern Ontario (you need to turn the Ontario Map over to the other side – I believe that the front side goes as far as Sault Ste. Marie). Great Job! Exciting Times!
* There was a lack of information, workshops re; library board members – roles, importance, tasks, advocacy. One library closing and one library moving to a new and larger building, in a school area - much effort to add of archival collection. Multiple meetings and presentations to city council. Role of councillors to be more cognisant of the importance of libraries. Help us to make a strong case for libraries today. Thanks.